

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

6 ARR. -048  
FOR INS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Avondale

AND/OR COMMON

Avondale Farm House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Maryland Route 31 at Avondale

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2 1/2 miles west of Westminster VICINITY OF

Sixth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Maryland

24

Carroll

013

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

## OWNERSHIP

## STATUS

## PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☐ PUBLIC☒ OCCUPIED☒ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☒ BUILDING(S)☒ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ NO☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The B. F. Shriver Company

Mrs. Edith Elliot

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Railroad Avenue

P.O. Box 56

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

New Market, Md. 21774

STATE

Maryland 21774

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Court House Square

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Avondale stands on a low rise of ground on the south side of U.S. Route 31, about 2 1/2 miles west of Westminster, Maryland.

It is a Georgian style two and one-half story brick house, measuring approximately 45 feet long by 18 1/2 feet deep. A two story brick north-west wing measures approximately 49 feet long by 13 feet deep.

The formally arranged, Flemish bond principal facade faces southwest and has five symmetrically placed bays at the first floor level. The entrance doorway is located on a centered, two story pedimented pavillion that only slightly projects beyond the wall plane. This entrance consists of a double door and narrow flanking sidelights beneath an unusually pronounced arched fanlight. The four flanking windows of nine over nine pane sash have simple beaded surrounds and flat arches of splayed stretcher brick. On the second floor level is a Palladian window centered on the pavillion directly over the entrance door. Its four flanking windows are smaller than those below and have sash of six over six lights each. Extending across the facade between the outside ends of the sills of the two second floor end windows is a two course brick band. Within the pediment of the pavillion is a small lunette window. A single flush chimney stands at each end of the gable roof and there is a three part, dentiled wood cornice across the front and rear elevations. Although there are cornice returns on the front pediment there are none on the ends of the house. On the rear elevation of the exposed wall of the main block is two bays wide. A centered, first floor, unornamented door opens into the main hall. Extending across this elevation, between the wing and the southeast corner of the main block and flush with the second floor window sills, is a projecting two course brick band.

The northeast wing was initially a detached or semi-detached two story brick structure, three bays wide on its southeast side and one bay wide on the northwest side, which housed the summer kitchen in its single ground floor room. It has been suggested that this earliest part of the wing pre-dates the main block but similarities in structural and decorative detail indicate that the two were built at or about the same time. In about the mid nineteenth century the area between the main block and kitchen was closed by the addition of a two story, two bay extension of the kitchen. At about this same time a one-story, full width farm porch was built on the wings southeast elevation.

Although the plan of the principal facade would seem to suggest otherwise, the interior of Avondale is one of fairly simple design, more Federal in detail than Georgian. Its most outstanding feature is that of the main stair, rising in four flights to the attic and decorated with delicately turned balusters, a molded rail and

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET Avondale

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

1

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED

scrolled stepends. In combination with the fanlighted entrance the stair hall presents a very handsome appearance. In the two rooms flanking the hall (see plan) are simple mantles with molded cornice shelves (in the northwest room a paneled closet stands adjacent to the projecting chimney), wide two piece surrounds on the windows and doors, and paneled wainscoting beneath molded chairrails. The two rooms and hall of the second floor are similarly treated. Beneath the house is a full, dirt floored cellar.

In the wing there are two rooms, both with large fireplace openings. A steep winding stair is enclosed within the recessed area adjacent to the projecting chimney of the southwest room and the fireplace opening in the original kitchen is fitted with cranes and an iron doored oven. A large iron fireback originally standing this opening was removed several years ago, but remains on the property.

Avondale has, from years of neglect, suffered extensive damage from deterioration. The graceful and noteworthy entrance door has lost 90 percent of its fan and side lights and the floor of the southeast first floor room of the main block has collapsed into the cellar. The remainder of the house appears physically sound but is in great need of general repairs before it, too, is lost.

Near the house is a pyramid roofed smokehouse and a frame wash-house, both in good repair. There are no vestiges of former gardens or other outbuildings remaining except a large nineteenth century barn near the entrance to the property. Ore pits remaining from the iron furnaces of Legh Masters are, however, evident at a distance not far from the house.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Avondale is unique in Carroll County, being the only recorded example of an eighteenth century house with a formal facade that is based on elements of Georgian architecture. Although it displays Federal influences and could be perhaps considered a transitional building, the arrangement of the facade establishes it as an important landmark significant to the study of regional architectural development.

The building of Avondale is attributed to Legh Masters (d. 1796) who came to what is now Carroll County from New Hall, Lancashire, England, in the early eighteenth century. He owned several thousand acres, including the Avondale tract. Masters began the operation of an iron foundry near Avondale circa 1765, making this one of the oldest furnaces in Maryland. The furnace only operated for one or two blasts as the ore proved "unproductive and indifferent". Masters' interest in the area as a residence contradicts his mineral venture for no one would describe his monumental brick house as "indifferent". (Two other attempts at iron production were initiated at the end of the eighteenth century and before the Civil War. Neither was successful.

Although there are numerous local stories involving Avondale, most of these are of supernatural nature. No events of a significant historical nature are known to have occurred, except the operation of the furnace. Avondale is presently owned by the B. F. Shriver Company of Carroll County and the house tenanted. There is a distinct possibility that the property may soon be sold and a great deal of public concern has been voiced concerning its preservation.



## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bullock, Orin, AIA Architect, Observations of A. Andale, April, 1968,  
contained in letter of Richard N. Jackson, Jr., AIA, dated May 3, 1968.  
Grave Marker of Legh Master, Ascension Church, Westminster, Maryland.  
Sharf, J. Thomas, History of Western Maryland, Philadelphia; Louis H.  
Everts, 1882, Vol. II, pp. 925-926.  
USGS Map, N3930-W7700/7.5, New Windsor, Maryland, 1971.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

## UTM REFERENCES

A   
C 

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

CODE

CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire, Architectural Historian

(cas)

## ORGANIZATION

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Maryland Historical Trust

January, 1975

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

# Annapolis

Maryland 21401

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



AVONDALE  
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map  
New Windsor Quadrangle  
Scale 1:24000  
1953

WESTMINSTER

Radio Tower  
(WTR)

Copp's  
Branch

Copp's

Cem.

Gaging  
Sta.

Little

Avondale

Spring Mills

Medford

Western Chapel

Cem.

Baile's Mill

Stone  
Chapel

Cem.

BM

CARR - 48

AVONDALE

(Listed on the National Register  
of Historic Places)

Late 18th century

501 Stone Chapel Road  
Westminster

Private

Avondale is one of the most refined architectural specimens in Carroll County. Its architecture presents an elaborate design for this rural region that represents a transitional building from the early Federal period. The Flemish bond main facade of the brick structure is highlighted by an unusually pronounced arched fanlight with a detailed mullion design at the main entrance. The central bay of the second story has a Palladian-style window. This stylish detailing is carried over on the interior with the ornamentation of the main staircase.

The house was constructed by Legh Master (1717-1796) who established an iron foundry on this property circa 1765. Master had come from Lancastershire, England, and acquired over 6,000 acres of land in this area. He left the area during the Revolutionary War to operate a merchant boat in Bermuda, and letters of his to the governor of Maryland show some of his activities during this period including service as transporter during an exchange of British and American prisoners. He returned to Avondale after the war and lived there until his death in 1796. He is most remembered as a

character in a folk tale published in J. Thomas Scharf's History of Western Maryland. The tale involves accounts of encounters with Master's ghost in the hills around Avondale who begged for mercy for misdeeds that included pushing a slave into the iron furnance.





## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

225. N. Center Street  
Westminster, Maryland 21157

## WESTMINSTER PLANNING DISTRICT

## FIELD SHEET--HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY

SURVEY NUMBER: CARR-48

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP: New Windsor MD

PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Avondale

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Avondale

PRESENT USE: residence

ORIGINAL USE: residence

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent (X) Good ( )

Fair ( ) Poor ( )

THEME:

STYLE: Georgian / Federal

DATE BUILT: late 18th century

COUNTY: CARROLL

TOWN: WESTMINSTER VICINITY

LOCATION: 501 Stone Chapel Road

TAX MAP 45 BLOCK 16 P505

COMMON NAME: AVONDALE (NR Site)

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: private residence

OWNER: Michael R. Hecht

ADDRESS: 501 Stone Chapel Rd.  
Westminster, Md. 21157

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:

Yes ( ) No (X) Restricted ( )

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Local ( ) State ( ) National (X)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone (X) Brick ( ) Concrete ( ) Concrete Block ( )
  2. Wall Structure
    - A. Wood: Log ( ) Post and Beam ( ) Balloon ( )
    - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick (X) Stone ( ) Concrete ( ) Concrete Block ( )
    - C. Iron ( ) D. Steel ( ) E. Other
  3. Wall Covering: Weatherboard ( ) German Siding ( ) Board and Batten ( )  
Wood Shingle ( ) Shiplap ( ) Novelty ( ) Stucco ( ) Sheet Metal ( )  
Aluminum ( ) Asphalt Shingle ( ) Brick Veneer ( ) Stone Veneer ( )  
Bonding Pattern: Flemish Other:
  4. Roof Structure
    - A. Truss: Wood (X) Iron ( ) Steel ( ) Concrete ( )
    - B. Other:
  5. Roof Covering: Slate ( ) Wood Shingle ( ) Asphalt Shingle (X) Sheet Metal ( )  
Built Up ( ) Rolled ( ) Tile ( ) Other:
  6. Engineering Structure:
  7. Other:
- Appendages: Porches ( ) Towers ( ) Cupolas ( ) Dormers (X) Chimneys ( ) Sheds ( )  
Ells (X) Wings ( ) Other:
- Roof Style: Gable (X) Hip ( ) Shed ( ) Flat ( ) Mansard ( ) Gambrel ( ) Jerkinhead ( )  
Saw Tooth ( ) With Monitor ( ) With Bellcast ( ) With Parapet ( )  
With False Front ( ) Other:

Number of Stories: 2 1/2

Number of Bays: 5

Approximate Dimensions:

Entrance Location: center

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat (X) Zoning ( ) Roads ( )

Development ( ) Deterioration ( )

Alteration ( ) Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

Positive (X) Negative ( )

Mixed ( ) Other:

**ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

Elaborate ornamentation for this area - main entrance has arched fanlight with sidelights, Palladian-style window on second story, and a small lunette window in the pediment

Interior has central hall with an elaborate main stair, rooms have molded chairrails with paneled wainscoting

Entered in the National Register 10/10/1975

House was restored in 1976

**RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)**

frame washhouse

pyramid-roofed smokehouse

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

architectural - an elaborate design for this region representing a transitional building from the Georgian and Federal periods

industrial - the building is associated with the iron furnaces that were begun by its owner Legh Master

**REFERENCES:**

1862 Martenet's Map: Thomas Van Bibber

1877 LG & S Atlas: Thomas E. Van Bibber

National Register Nomination Form - prepared by J. Richard Revoire, Jan. 1975

Davidson, Amos G. "Legh Master of Wakefield Valley: A Controversial Marylander" manuscript

**SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:**

Open Lane ( ) Woodland ( ) Scattered Buildings ( )  
 Moderately Built Up (X) Densely-Built Up ( )  
 Residential ( ) Commercial ( )  
 Agricultural ( ) Industrial ( )  
 Roadside Strip Development ( )  
 Other:

**RECORDED BY:**

Joe Getty

**ORGANIZATION:****DATE RECORDED:**

June 11, 1983

0700482235  
N. R. FIELD SHEET

CARR 48

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON: "AVONDALE", "LEIGH MASTER'S HOUSE", "FURNACE HILLS"  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: New Winsor Road

CITY OR TOWN: Westminster

STATE: Maryland	CODE:	COUNTY: Carroll	CODE:
-----------------	-------	-----------------	-------

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	tenant
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME: B. F. Shriver & Co.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Westminster	STATE: Maryland	CODE:
---------------------------	-----------------	-------

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Carroll County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Westminster	STATE: Maryland	CODE:
---------------------------	-----------------	-------

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:
---------------	--------	-------

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The main block is of the Georgian style five bays in length: large center door with fanlight and Paladian window above flanked by two windows on either side. The original pedimented porch has disappeared but the outline can still be seen on the front wall.

All interior mouldings and mantles are characteristic of the Georgian period. The first floor windows are 9/9 with interior shutters, chair rails, original mantles, Cross and Bible doors, and original hardware. The center hall contains a stair of rather simple design but with very delicate double 8 spandrels. The panelling at the stair closet is of squares of varying sizes. The closet gives access to the cellar stairs. The stair rail is walnut with saddles and there is an added hand rail on the inside wall. The front door with fanlight has been badly damaged and is boarded over, and the living room floor has collapsed into the cellar so that <sup>the</sup> room has been boarded off also. The hall and dining room are in fairly good condition although the dining room floor is a Victorian replacement (as well as floor joists, visible from the cellar).

The second floor contains two bedrooms with fireplaces and a single flanking closet. There is a center hall landing with a small room at the head of the stairs which is lighted by the Paladian window. The room contains a closet and steep stair to the attic.

An addition to the rear of the house could have been built earlier or later but ~~was~~ erected separately as they are not actually joined at the seam. This addition, which gives the house an ell shape, contains the winter kitchen with large fireplace (bricked in) and dutch oven. The wing has two rooms and center hall down (incl. kitchen at the gable end) and two rooms and center hall above. All four rooms have fireplaces (the kitchen having the largest) and the stairwell is sheathed in vertical beaded planking.

Off from the gable (kitchen) end of this wing stands a structure of 19th century design which contains the summer kitchen.

There are numerous outbuildings including an interesting smoke house with pivot post still usable.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

CARR-48

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☒20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☒

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☒losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds		LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>J. Richard Rivoire</u>		
ORGANIZATION: <u>Maryland Historical Trust</u>	DATE:	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Annapolis</u>	STATE: <u>Maryland</u>	CODE:

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

MAGT #0700482235 CARR-48

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Carroll
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Avondale Farm House
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Avondale

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Maryland Route 31 at Avondale			
CITY OR TOWN: 2 1/2 miles west of Westminster		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Sixth	
STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24	COUNTY: Carroll	CODE: 013

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: The B. F. Shriver Company			
STREET AND NUMBER: Railroad Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Westminster		STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Carroll County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER: Court House Square			
CITY OR TOWN: Westminster		STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Carroll
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Avondale stands on a low rise of ground on the south side of U.S. Route 31, about 2 1/2 miles west of Westminster, Maryland.

It is a Georgian style two and one-half story brick house, measuring approximately 45 feet long by 18 1/2 feet deep. A two story brick north-west wing measures approximately 49 feet long by 13 feet deep

The formally arranged, Flemish bond principal facade faces southwest and has five symmetrically placed bays at the first floor level. The entrance doorway is located on a centered, two story pedimented pavillion that only slightly projects beyond the wall plane. This entrance consists of a double door and narrow flanking sidelights beneath an unusually pronounced arched fanlight. The four flanking windows of nine over nine pane sash have simple beaded surrounds and flat arches of splayed stretcher brick. On the second floor level is a Palladian window centered on the pavillion directly over the entrance door. Its four flanking windows are smaller than those below and have sash of six over six lights each. Extending across the facade between the outside ends of the sills of the two second floor end windows is a two course brick band. Within the pediment of the pavillion is a small lunette window. A single flush chimney stands at each end of the gable roof and there is a three part, dentiled wood cornice across the front and rear elevations. Although there are cornice returns on the front pediment there are none on the ends of the house. On the rear elevation the exposed wall of the main block is two bays wide. A centered, first floor, unornamented door opens into the main hall. Extending across this elevation, between the wing and the southeast corner of the main block and flush with the second floor window sills, is a projecting two course brick band.

The northeast wing was initially a detached or semi-detached two story brick structure, three bays wide on its southeast side and one bay wide on the northwest side, which housed the summer kitchen in its single ground floor room. It has been suggested that this earliest part of the wing pre-dates the main block but similarities in structural and decorative detail indicate that the two were built at or about the same time. In about the mid nineteenth century the area between the main block and kitchen was closed by the addition of a two story, two bay extension of the kitchen. At about this same time a one-story, full width farm porch was built on the wings southeast elevation.

Although the plan of the principal facade would seem to suggest otherwise, the interior of Avondale is one of

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



## 3. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☒ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☐ 19th Century

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military            | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |  |  |  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Avondale is unique in Carroll County, being the only recorded example of an eighteenth century house with a formal facade that is based on elements of Georgian architecture. Although it displays Federal influences and could be perhaps considered a transitional building, the arrangement of the facade establishes it as an important landmark significant to the study of regional architectural development.

The building of Avondale is attributed to Legh Masters who came to Carroll County from New Hall, Lancestershire, England in the early part of the eighteenth century. The Avondale tract was included among the several thousand acres he came to own in the area and it was here that he developed the iron furnace of which traces still remain. Masters began the operation of the foundry in about the year 1770, thus the Avondale furnace is one of the oldest in Maryland. Following Masters death in 1796, the furnace was closed. Shortly before the Civil War, it was reopened under the auspices of the Ashland Ore Company and during the Civil War was utilized for the manufacture of bomb shells. In 1880 the furnace was again closed and finally abandoned altogether.

Although there are numerous local stories involving Avondale, most of these are of supernatural nature. No events of a significant historical nature are known to have occurred, except the operation of the furnace. Avondale is presently owned by the B.F. Shriver Company of Carroll County and the house tenanted. There is a distinct possibility that the property may be soon sold and a great deal of public concern has been voiced concerning its preservation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CARR-48

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bullock, Orin, AIA Architect, Observations of Avondale, April 1968, contained in letter of Richard N. Jackson, Jr., AIA, dated May 3, 1968.  
 Grave Marker of Legh Master, Ascension Church, Westminster, Md.  
 Sharf, J. Thomas, History of Western Maryland, Philadelphia; Louis H. Everts, 1882, Vol. II, pp. 925-926.  
 USGS Map, N3930-W7700/7.5, New Windsor, Maryland, 1971.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		39 33 16	77	01 42
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 8 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

J. Richard Rivoire, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

January 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

Arthur C. Townsend

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

CARR-48

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Carroll	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Avondale Farm House

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

fairly simple design, more Federal in detail than Georgian. Its most outstanding feature is that of the main stair, rising in four flights to the attic and decorated with delicately turned balusters, a molded rail and scrolled stepends. In combination with the fanlight entrance the stair hall presents a very handsome appearance. In the two rooms flanking the hall (see plan) are simple mantles with molded cornice shelves (in the northwest room a paneled closet stands adjacent to the projecting chimney), wide two piece surrounds on the windows and doors, and paneled wainscoting beneath molded chairrails. The two rooms and hall of the second floor are similarly treated. Beneath the house is a full, dirt floored cellar.

In the wing there are two rooms, both with large fireplace openings. A steep winding stair is enclosed within the recessed area adjacent to the projecting chimney of the southwest room and the fireplace opening in the original kitchen is fitted with cranes and an iron doored oven. A large iron fireback originally standing in this opening was removed several years ago, but remains on the property.

Avondale has, from years of neglect, suffered extensive damage from deterioration. The graceful and noteworthy entrance door has lost 90 percent of its fan and side lights and the floor of the southeast first floor room of the main block has collapsed into the cellar. The remainder of the house appears physically sound but is in great need of general repairs before it, too, is lost.

Near the house is a pyramid roofed smokehouse and a frame washhouse, both in good repair. There are no vestiges of former gardens or other outbuildings remaining except a large nineteenth century barn near the entrance to the property. Ore pits remaining from the iron furnaces of Legh Masters are, however, evident at a distance not far from the house.



AVONDALE  
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map  
New Windsor Quadrangle  
scale: 1:24000  
1953

WESTMINSTER

Radio Tower  
(WTR)

Branch

Copps

Little

Avondale

Creek

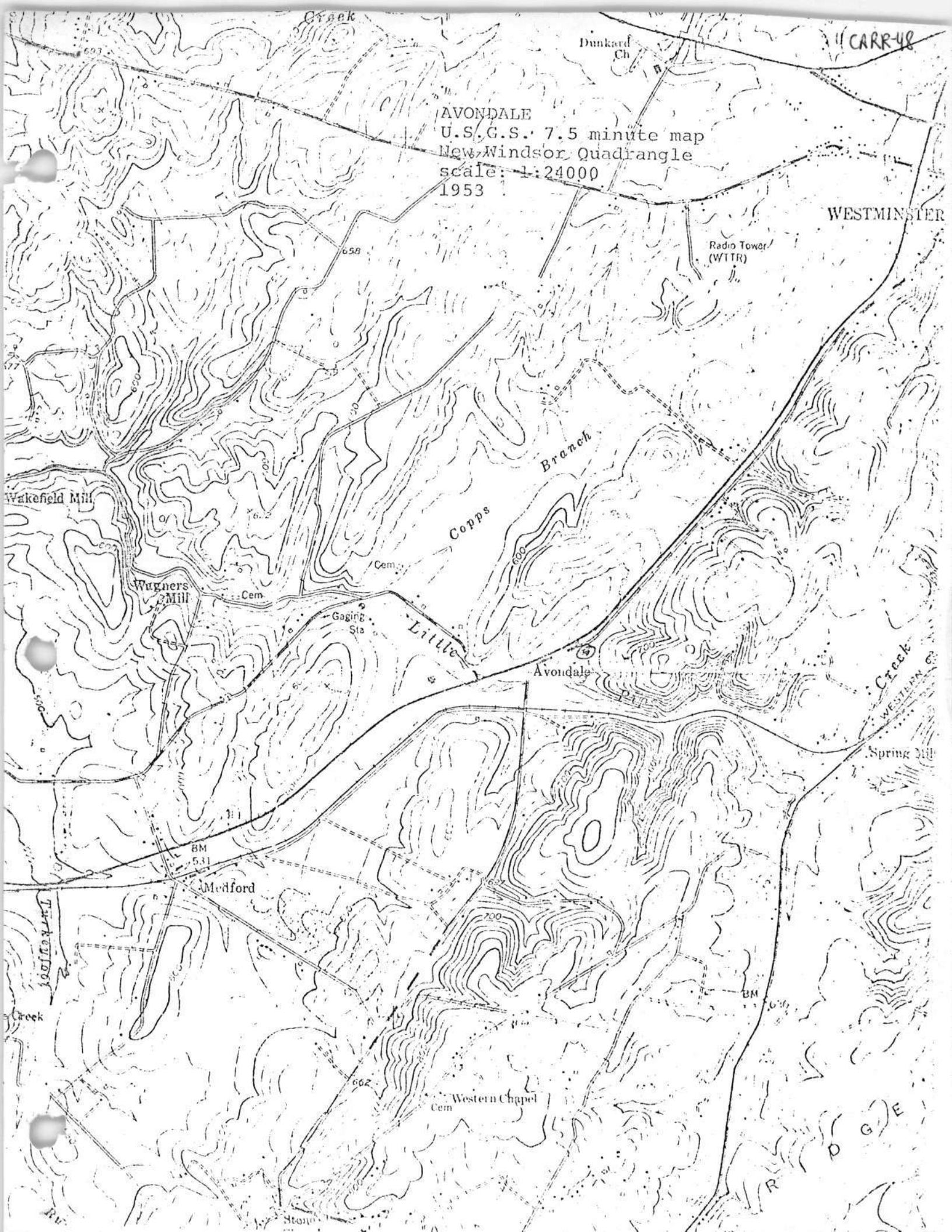
Spring Hill

Medford

Western Chapel  
Cem

P G E

R







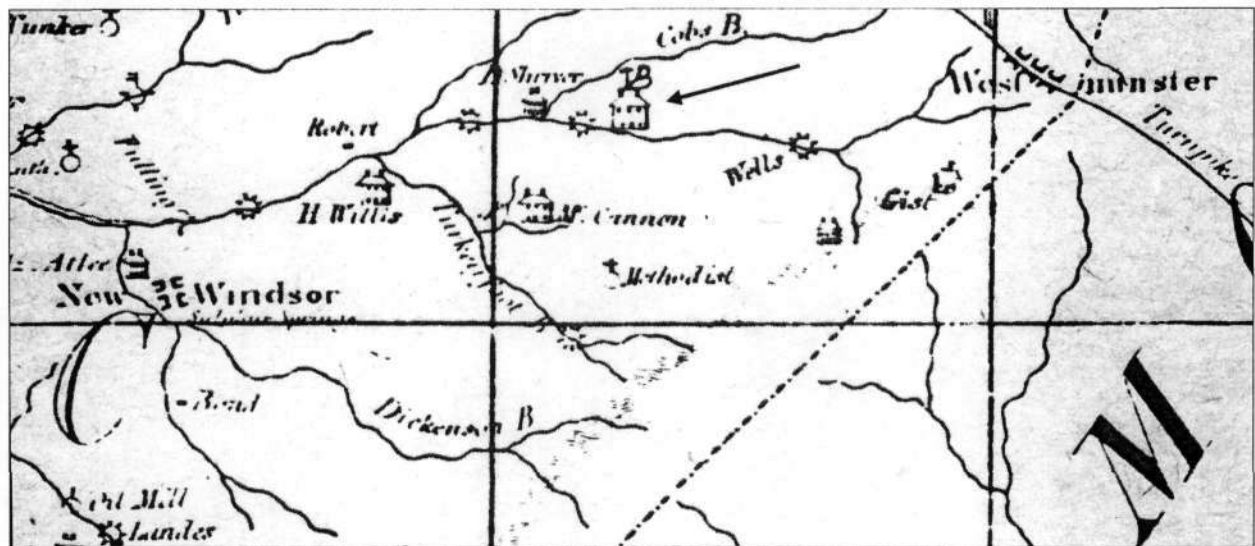
U.S.G.S. MAP  
NEW WINDSOR, MD.  
1:24000 SCALE

CARR-48

Avondale (Legh Masters House, Furnace Hills)

501 Stone Chapel Road, Westminster

A Map of Frederick and Washington Counties, State of Maryland, 1808, Charles Varlé

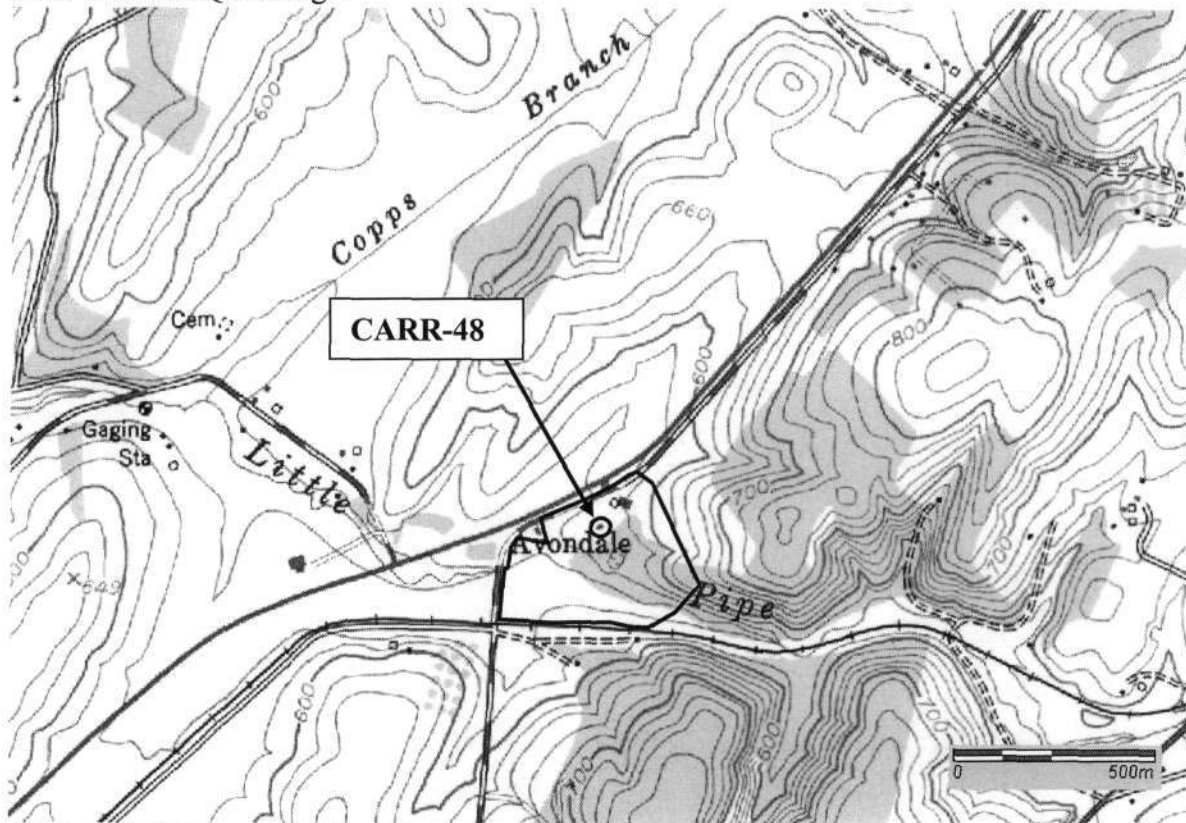


CARR-48

Avondale (Legh Masters House, Furnace Hills)

501 Stone Chapel Road

New Windsor Quadrangle



1998 Aerial Photo with Tax Map 45 (parcels 687 and 688)







Avondale - Lawrence Co.  
CARR-418

12/21 12/69



Avondale, Ariz. City.

CARR-48

2917 12/69





Arundel - Carr. City -  
CARR-48

7/21/21/69



Arondale, lav. City

CARR-48

2/12 12/69





AVONDALE (SMOKE HOUSE) CARR 48

J.R.R. 12/69



CARR 48

AVONDALE

Chris Wedel

9/78





CARR-48

AYONDAVE

Chris We.



CARR-48

ALUMINUM

Chris Weeks

9/78





CARR- 48

Available



AVONDALE

CARR48

Chris Weeks

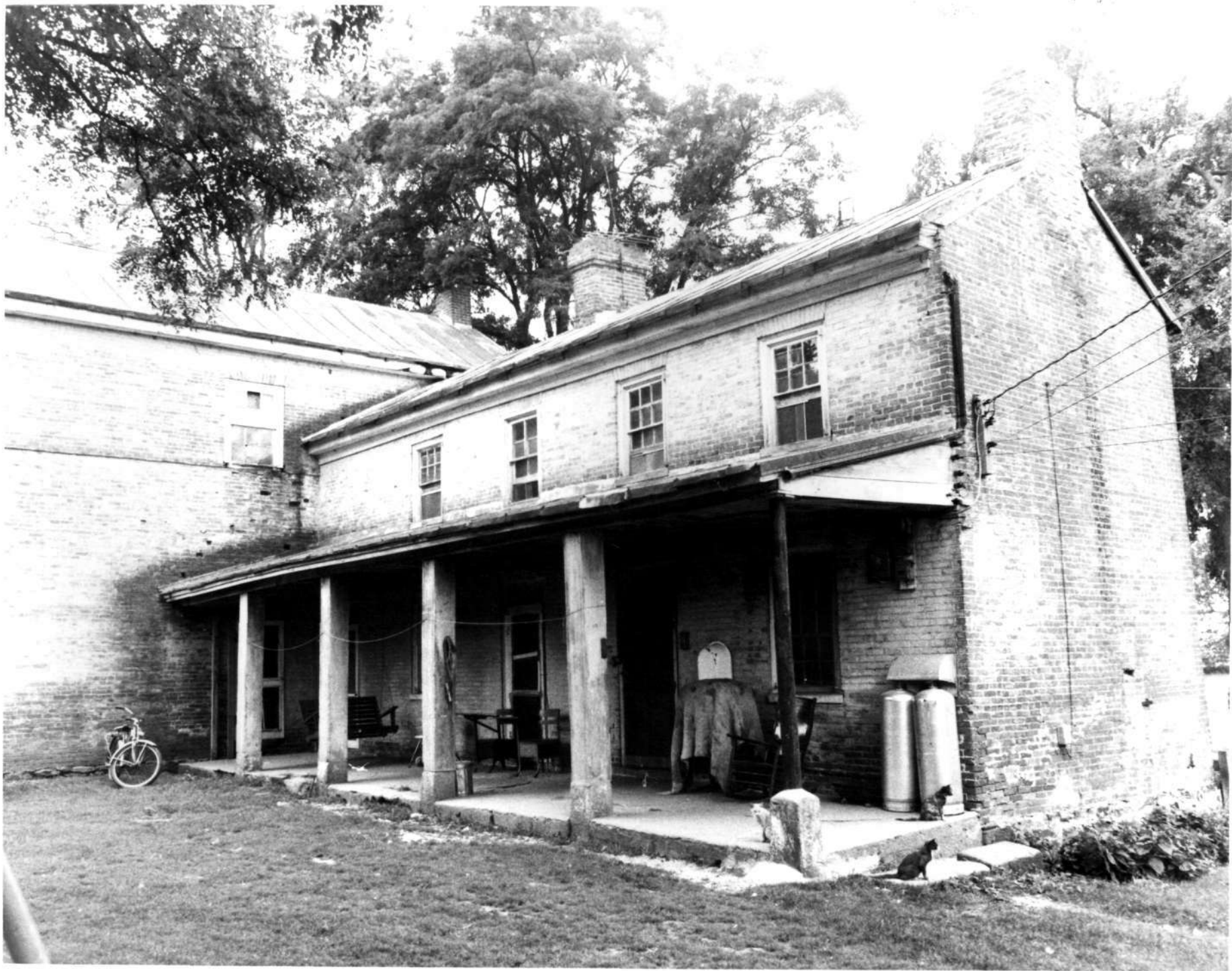
9/178



CARR-48 AVONDALE

Neg-1 A+





CARR-48 AVONDALE

Orlando Ribot IV

1971

Neg-MHT